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REMARKS

Upon entry of the above Amendment, claims 1-8 and 15-18 are pending in this application. As claims have been canceled only, the Amendment does not present new matter.

The Examiner required restriction of the application into the following two groups: Group I, claims 9-14, allegedly drawn to a coating composition; and Group II, claims 15-18, allegedly drawn to a dye composition. Claims 1-8 have been characterized as bridging claims that will be examined with the chosen group. According to the Examiner, the inventions are unrelated and distinct, and have acquired separate status in the art. The Examiner notes that a complete response must include an election, even if traversed.

Applicants hereby elect the claims of Group II (i.e., claims 1-8 and 15-18). While Applicants do not necessarily agree with the statements set forth in the Office action or the conclusions drawn therein, applicants make the foregoing election without traverse. The claims have been amended to cancel the non-elected subject matter.

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's helpful reminder concerning non-elected claims and the potential for correction of inventorship.

Applicants believe the application, and pending claims 1-8 and 15-18, to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the above amendment and pass the application to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,

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/ Date

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper(s) referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office facsimile number (703) 872-9306 on the date shown below.

Jodi L. Owenby